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The attached lettter from Scott Thompson is self-explanatory. I talked with Thompson over the phone and told him we were not doing any work at the present time which is directly related to his project, but that we will be glad to discuss his project with him at a mutually convenient time. I mentioned specifically as people from whom he would benefit in an exchange of ideas.

Assuming that he continues on this project under a new Secretary of Defense, he will probably be calling us in a few weeks to set up a time to get together.

> Lew Lapham D/PR

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Att: As stated

cc:

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

October 21, 1975

Dr. Lewis Lapham
Director, Political Research
CIA Headquarters - Rm 3E63
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Dr. Lapham:

Although I have not had the pleasure of meeting you, our paths have crossed frequently in Thailand and in the Cambridge area. I have been asked by the Secretary of Defense to prepare a study of Soviet involvement in the Indian Ocean area and on its effect on our defense posture there and internationally. I have had occasion to talk at some length about this with and also have had the good fortune of meeting some of the members of the International Functional Staff a few weeks ago, and thus am aware of how high a caliber of people you have in OPR. I would very much like to cooperate as closely as possible with any people in your office whose interest and current research overlaps this project of mine.

I very much look forward to hearing from you and hope to have the opportunity to meet you some time in the near future.

Yours truly,

W. Scott Thompson White House Fellow



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